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1.      (Currently Amended) A method of maintaining a selective view of server based data on a client computer system, said method comprising:

    obtaining information related to items on the server;

    comparing the information for items on the server to information for items on the client computer system;

    analyzing the information for each item on the server that is not on the client computer system to determine whether the item satisfies predetermined criteria;

    downloading the items that satisfy the predetermined criteria to the client computer system; and

    deleting local copies of items that do not satisfy the predetermined criteria.


2.      (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim 1 wherein the step of obtaining information and the step of comparing further comprises:

    requesting identification elements for each item located on the server;

    comparing each identification element returned from the server to identification elements for items located on the client computer system; and

    requesting secondary information for each item on the server not found on the client computer.


3.      (Original)     A method as defined in claim 2 wherein the requested secondary information is header information.


Claims 4-11 cancel

12.     (Original)     A method as defined in claim 1 wherein the predetermined criteria are date information.


13.     (Original)     A computer program storage medium readable by a computing system and encoding a computer program of instructions for executing a computer process in an email system at a client computer, said computer process retrieving server email messages from an email server computer, said computer process comprising:

     getting a server list of message identification elements related to server email messages;

     determining whether any of the server email messages are on the client computer;

     retrieving header information for each server email message not on the client computer;

     analyzing the header information and determining whether the server email messages, that are not on client computer, satisfy the predetermined criteria; and

     downloading server email messages to the client computer that satisfy the predetermined criteria.


14.     (Currently Amended)     The computer storage medium of claim 13 wherein the computer process further comprises:

     testing whether local email messages on the handheld client computer satisfy predetermined criteria; and

     deleting local email messages that do not satisfy the predetermined criteria.


15.     (Original)     The computer storage medium of claim 13 wherein the computer process operation of determining further comprises:

     composing a local list of message identification elements related to email messages on the client computer; and

     comparing the message identification elements in the local list to the message identification elements in the server list to determine whether any server email messages are on the client computer.


Claim 16 cancel

17.    (Original)    The computer storage medium of claim 13 wherein the computer process begins by:

composing a local list of message identification elements related to email messages on the client computer;

testing whether local email messages on the local list satisfy predetermined criteria; and

deleting local email messages, that do not satisfy the predetermined criteria, from the client computer.

18.    (Original)    Apparatus for maintaining a selective view of server based data on a client in a network of server and client computing systems, said apparatus in the client comprising:

a compose module composing a local item list of local email identifiers identifying those email messages on the client;

a get module requesting a server list of server email identifiers identifying email messages on the server;

a compare module comparing server email identifiers to local email identifiers to determine whether a server email message on the server is not on the client;

header request module responsive to the compare module and getting header information from the server for each server email message not on the client;

test module detecting from the header information whether each server email message not on the client satisfies a predetermined criteria;

a retrieve module responsive to the test module and downloading to the client server email messages that satisfy the predetermined criteria; and

a preservation module preserving on the client only local copies of server email messages that satisfy the predetermined criteria.

19.    (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 18 wherein said get module comprises:

a transport module sending to the server a request for the server list and the predetermined criteria for downloading server email messages to the client; and

a filter returning to the client only the server email identifiers for server email messages that satisfy the predetermined criteria.

Claims 20-24 cancel